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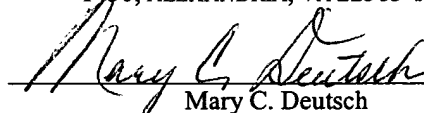
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: TRENHAILE ET AL	Examiner: I. BORISSOV
Serial No.: 10/008,276	Group Art Unit: 3629
Filed: NOVEMBER 8, 2001	Docket No. 5605USA
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPTIMIZING INGREDIENT BLENDING	(GMI0024/US)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ON April 17, 2006,
THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH
THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN
AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS, MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT, P.O. BOX
1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.


Mary C. Deutsch

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 21, 2006. The three-month shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire on May 21, 2006. Applicant considers this Response as timely submitted within the shortened statutory reply period. However, if any extension period is required in order for this paper to be timely filed, then Applicant hereby requests an extension for such additional time period and authorizes the appropriate fees therefore to be charged to the Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.

It is believed that no other fee is required in filing this Response. However, if any fee is required, please charge the appropriate fee to the Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.